

# Musings on the BES Critical Point Search

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## Outline

### ➤ **Introduction**

- ✓ Questions
- ✓ Known's & unknowns

### ➤ **Search strategy**

- ✓ Guiding principles
- ✓ Basics of Finite-Time Effects
- ✓ Basics of Finite-Size Effects

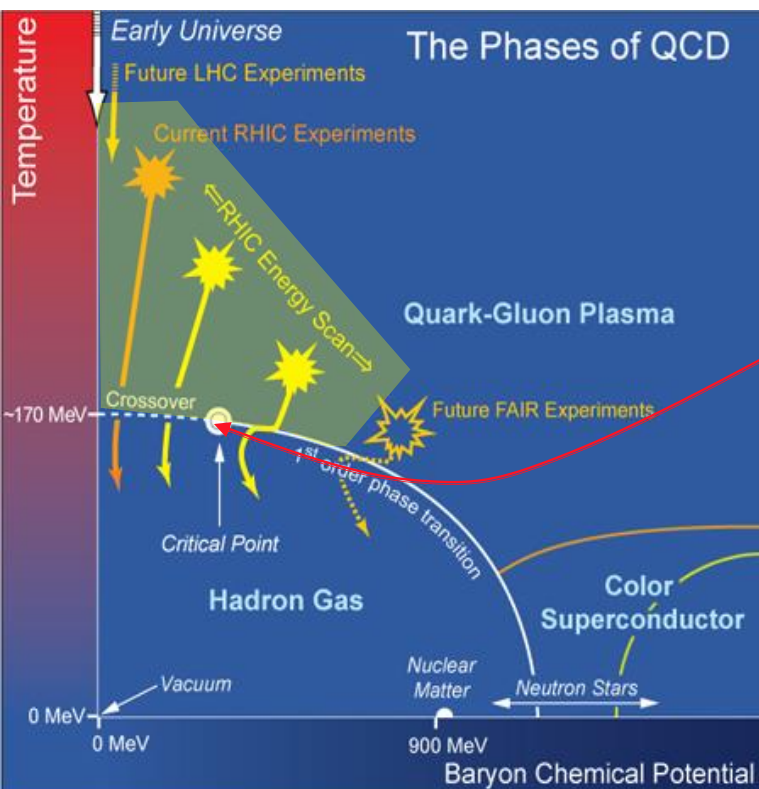
### ➤ **Probes & Characterizing the CEP**

- ✓ HBT
- ✓ Finite-Time-Scaling
- ✓ Finite-Size-Scaling

### ➤ **Summary**

- ✓ **Epilogue**

# The QCD Phase Diagram



## Essential Question

**What ingredients are required to fully characterize the CEP “landmark”?**

- Its location ( $T^{cep}, \mu_B^{cep}$ )?
- Its static critical exponents -  $\nu, \gamma$ ?
  - ✓ Static universality class?
  - ✓ Order of the transition
- Dynamic critical exponent/s –  $z$ ?
  - ✓ Dynamic universality class?

**All are required to fully characterize the CEP**

- Validation of the first order phase transition  
→ added bonus

# Knowns & unknowns

## Known known

### Theory consensus on the static universality class for the CEP

3D-Ising  $Z(2)$ ,  $\nu \sim 0.63$ ,  $\gamma \sim 1.2$

Summary - M. A. Stephanov Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 20, 4387 (2005)

Recent experimental Validation  
Lacey, PRL 114 (2015), 142301

## Known unknowns

### ➤ Location ( $T^{\text{cep}}$ , $\mu_B^{\text{cep}}$ ) of the CEP?

Summary - M. A. Stephanov Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 20, 4387 (2005)

### ➤ Dynamic Universality class for the CEP?

✓ One slow mode (L),  $z \sim 3$  - Model H

Son & Stephanov, Phys.Rev. D70 (2004) 056001

Moore & Saremi, JHEP 0809, 015 (2008)

✓ Three slow modes (NL)

✓  $z_T \sim 3$   
✓  $z_V \sim 2$  } [critical slowing down]

✓  $z_s \sim -0.8$  [critical speeding-up]

Y. Minami - Phys.Rev. D83 (2011) 094019

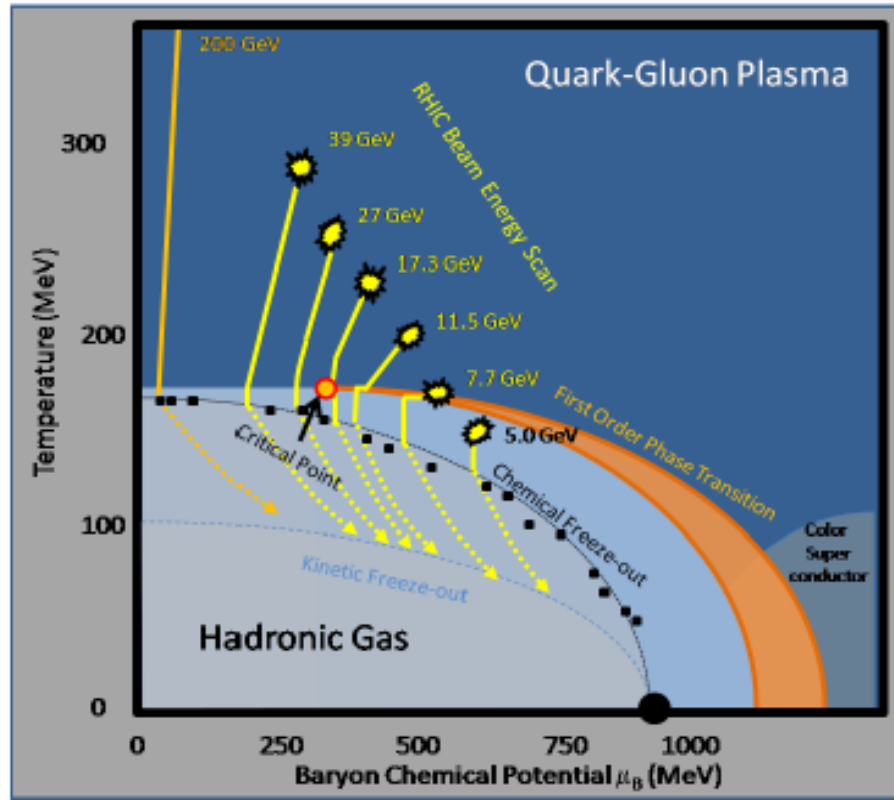
Knowledge about the dynamic critical exponent/s is crucial

Experimental verification  
and characterization of  
the CEP is an imperative

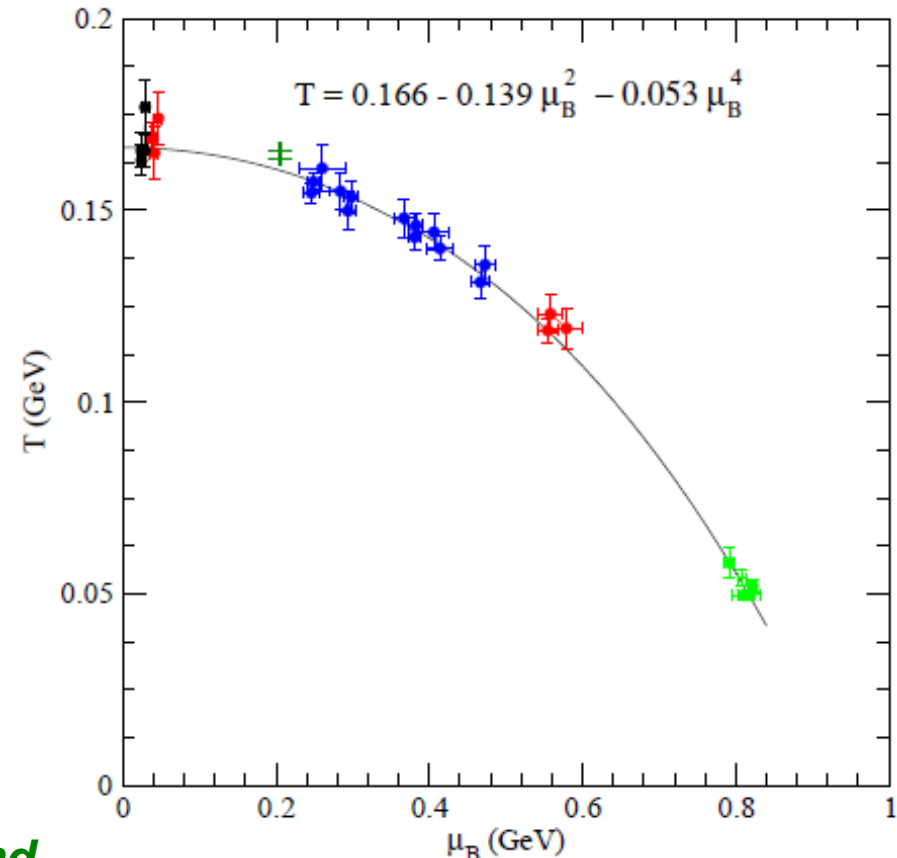


Ongoing beam energy scans  
to probe a large  $(T, \mu_B)$   
domain

# $(T, \mu_B)$ - Domain



## $(\mu_B, T)$ at chemical freeze-out (CFO)



➤ **LHC** → access to high  $T$  and small  $\mu_B$

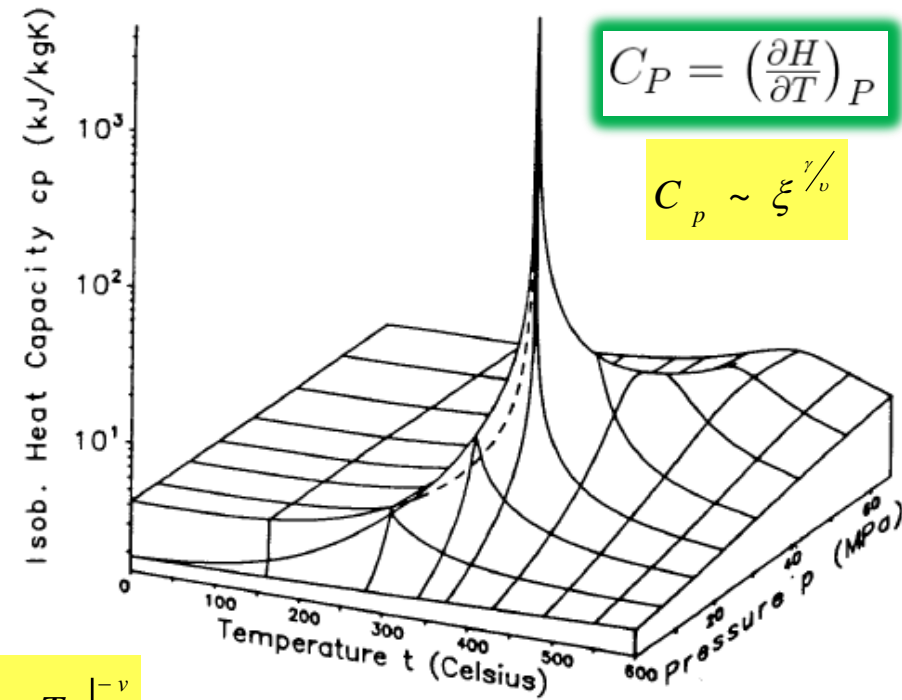
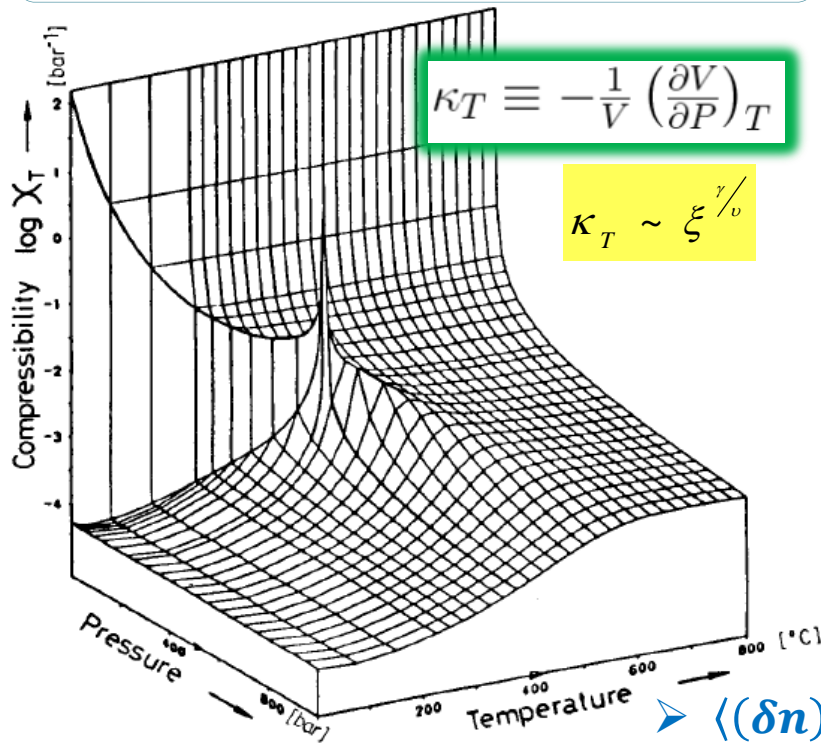
➤ **RHIC** → access to different systems and a broad domain of the  $(\mu_B, T)$ -plane

**RHIC<sub>BES</sub> to LHC** →  $\sim 360 \sqrt{s_{NN}}$  increase

$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  is a good proxy for exploring the  $(T, \mu_B)$  plane for experimental signatures  
→ especially important if CFO is close to the phase boundary

# Anatomy of search strategy

H<sub>2</sub>O



$$\xi \sim |T - T_c|^{-\nu}$$

➤  $\langle (\delta n) \rangle \sim \xi^2 \rightarrow$  search for “critical” fluctuations in HIC  
Stephanov, Rajagopal, Shuryak, PRL.81, 4816 (98)

The critical point is characterized by several (power law) divergences linked to the correlation length  $\xi$

Central idea → use beam energy scans to vary  $\mu_B$  &  $T$  to search for the influence of such divergences!

Finite size/time effects significantly dampen these divergences  
→ non-monotonic behavior

$\chi_{op}$  diverges at the CEP

so relaxation of the order parameter could be anomalously slow



**Non-linear dynamics →  
Multiple slow modes**

$$z_T \sim 3, z_V \sim 2, \mathbf{z_s} \sim -0.8$$

$\mathbf{z_s} < 0$  - Critical speeding up

$\mathbf{z} > 0$  - Critical slowing down

Y. Minami - Phys.Rev. D83 (2011) 094019

**An important consequence**

$$\xi \sim \tau^{1/z}$$

*Significant signal attenuation for  
short-lived processes  
with  $z_T \sim 3$  or  $z_V \sim 2$*

**eg.  $\langle(\delta n)\rangle \sim \xi^2$  (without FTE)**

**$\langle(\delta n)\rangle \sim \tau^{1/z} \ll \xi^2$  (with FTE)**

**\*\*Note that observables driven by the sound mode  
would NOT be similarly attenuated\*\***

**The value of the dynamic critical exponent/s is crucial for HIC**

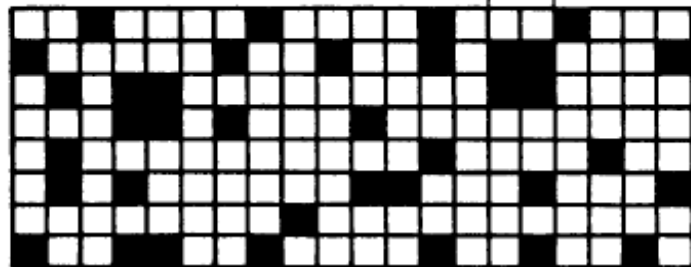
**Dynamic Finite-Size Scaling (DFSS) can be used  
to estimate the dynamic critical exponent  $z$   
→ employed in this study**



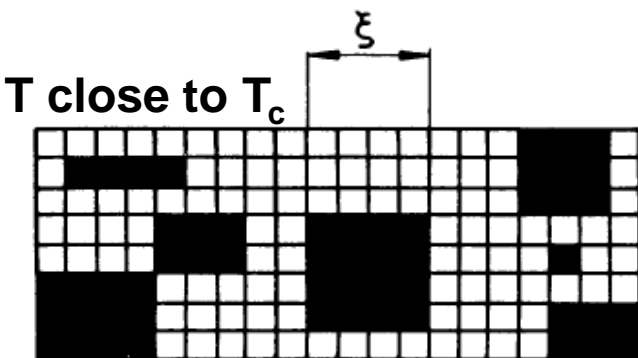
# Basics of Finite-Size Effects

## Illustration

$T > T_c$

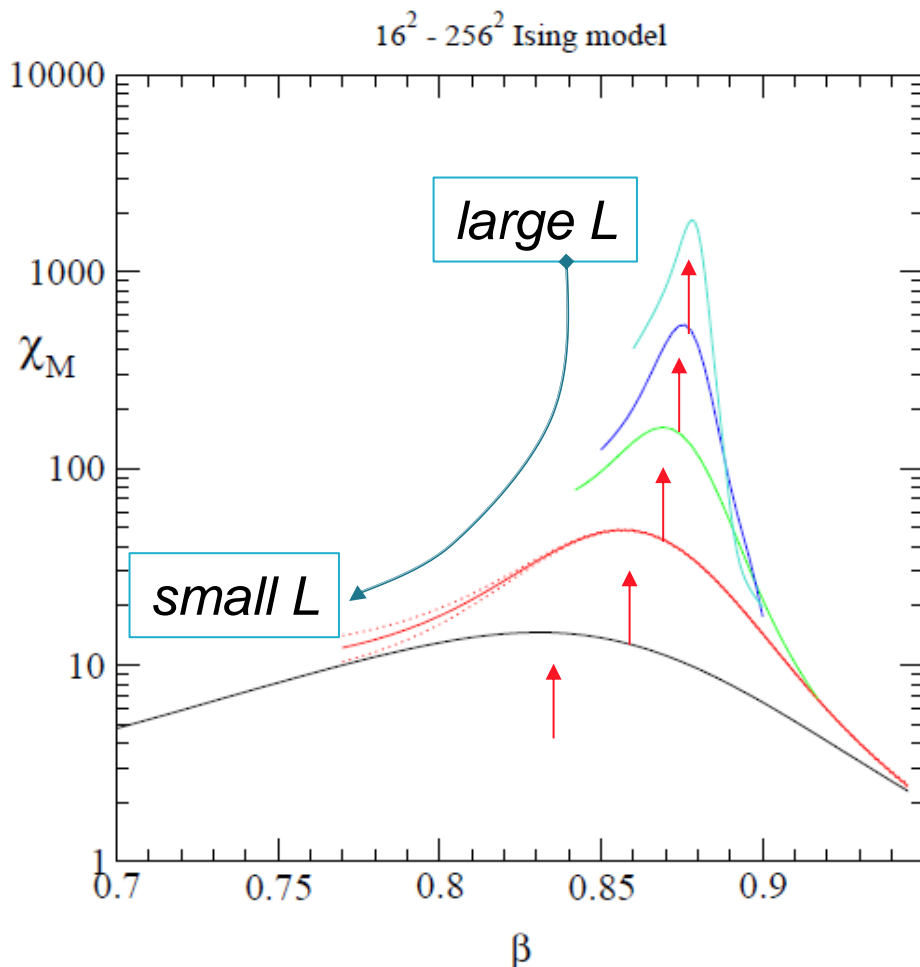


$L$  characterizes the system size



$$\xi \sim |T - T_c|^{-\nu} \leq L$$

→ Only a pseudo-critical point is observed → shifted from the genuine CEP

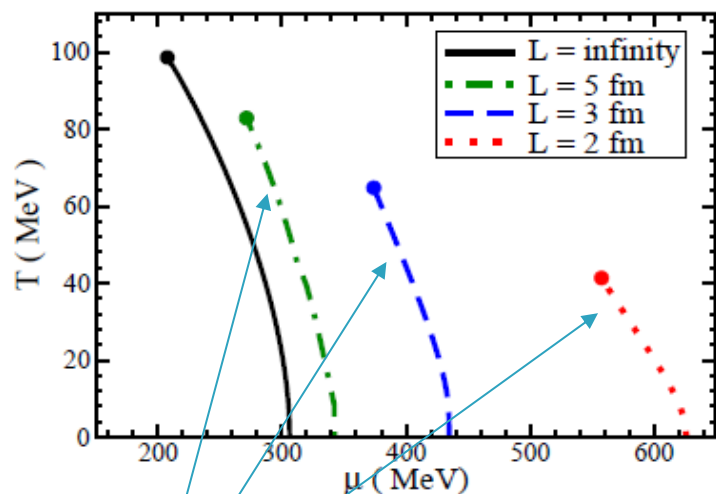


note change in peak heights, positions & widths

→ A curse of Finite-Size Effects (FSE)

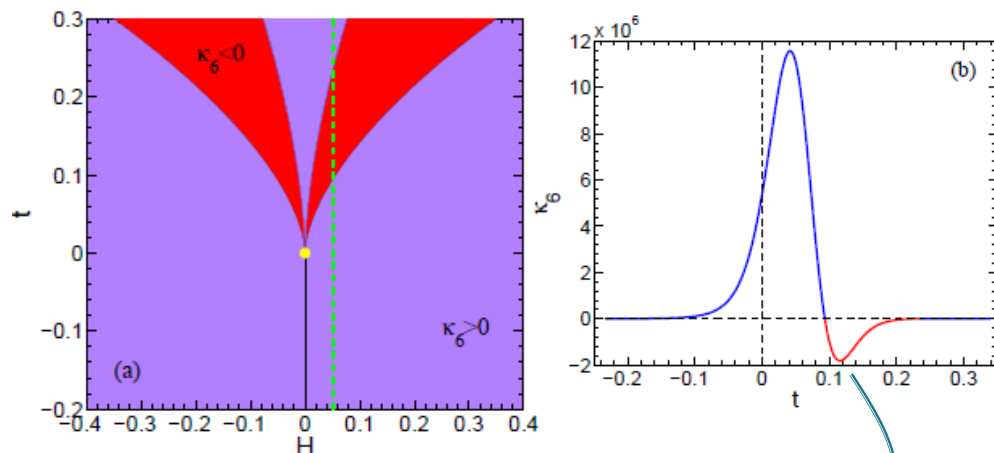
# The curse of Finite-Size effects

E. Fraga et. al.  
J. Phys.G 38:085101, 2011

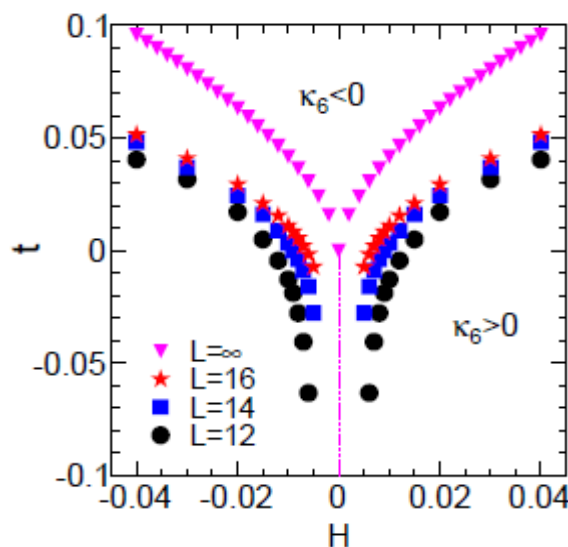


Displacement of pseudo-first-order transition lines and CEP due to finite-size

Finite-size effects on the sixth order cumulant  
-- 3D Ising



Pan Xue et al arXiv:1604.06858



FSE on temp  
dependence  
of minimum

**FSE  $\sim L^{2.5n}$   
for Z(2)**

*A flawless measurement, sensitive to FSE, **can not** be used to locate and characterize the CEP directly*



# The Blessings of Finite-Size

$$\chi_T^{\max}(V) \sim L^{\gamma/\nu},$$

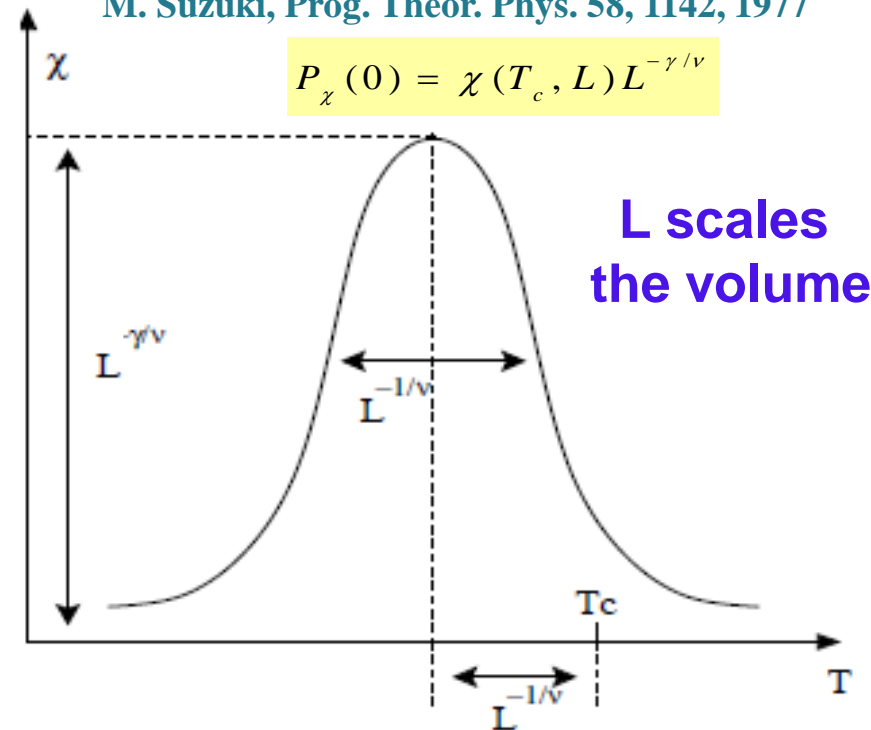
$$\delta T(V) \sim L^{-\frac{1}{\nu}},$$

$$\tau_T(V) \sim T^{\text{cep}}(V) - T^{\text{cep}}(\infty) \sim L^{-\frac{1}{\nu}},$$

$$\chi(T, L) = L^{\gamma/\nu} P_\chi(t L^{1/\nu}) \quad t = (T - T_c) / T_c$$

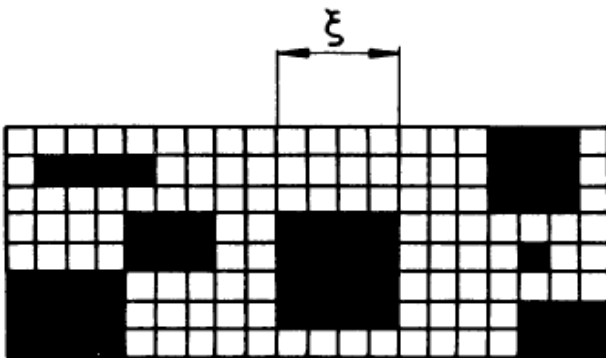
M. Suzuki, Prog. Theor. Phys. 58, 1142, 1977

$$P_\chi(0) = \chi(T_c, L) L^{-\gamma/\nu}$$



a)  $T > T_c$

Finite-size effects have a specific  
L dependence



b)  $T$  close to  $T_c$

$$\xi \sim |T - T_c|^{-\nu} \leq L$$

- ✓ Finite-size effects have specific identifiable dependencies on size (L)
- ✓ The scaling of these dependencies give access to the CEP's location, it's critical exponents and scaling function → employed in this study

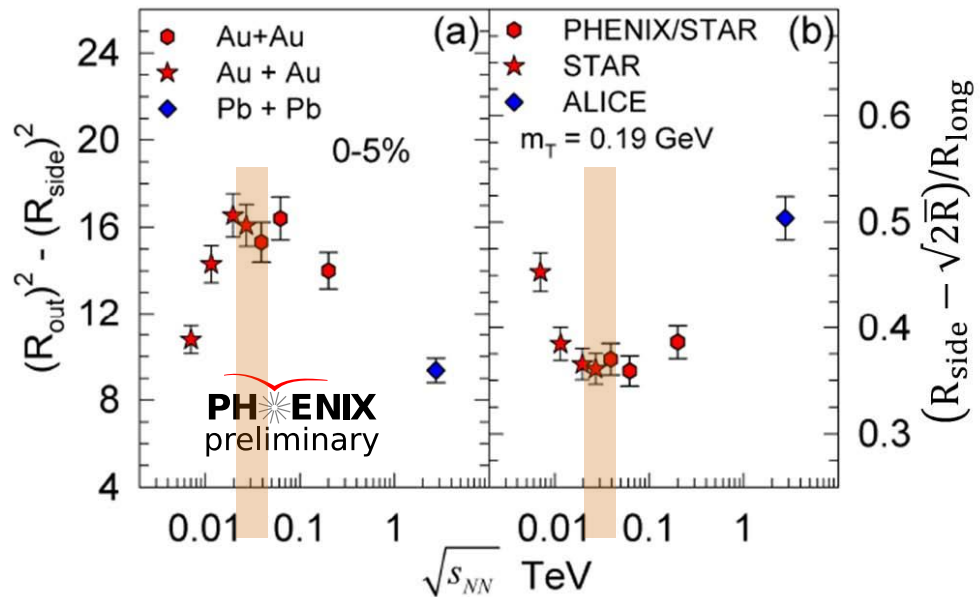
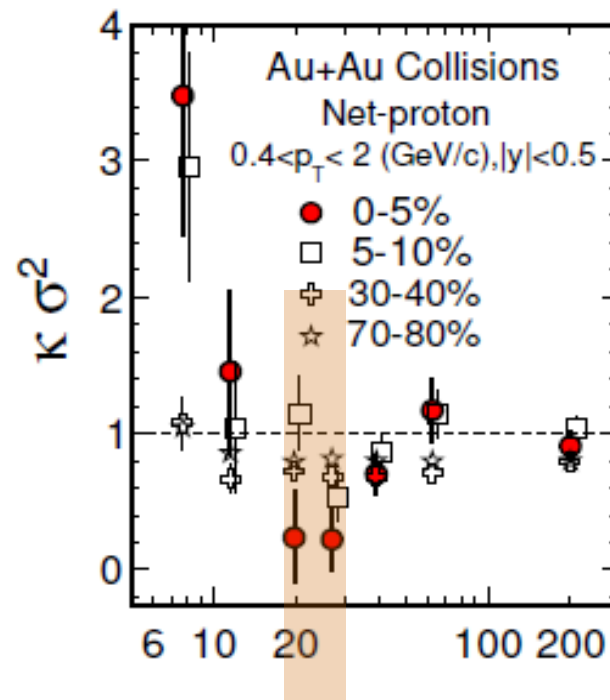
*Systematic studies of various quantities as function of  $\sqrt{s}$  are ongoing*

### Good News

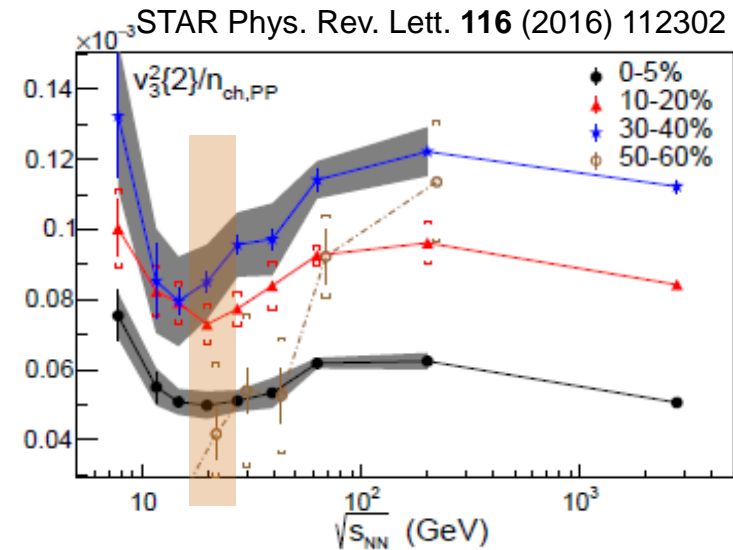
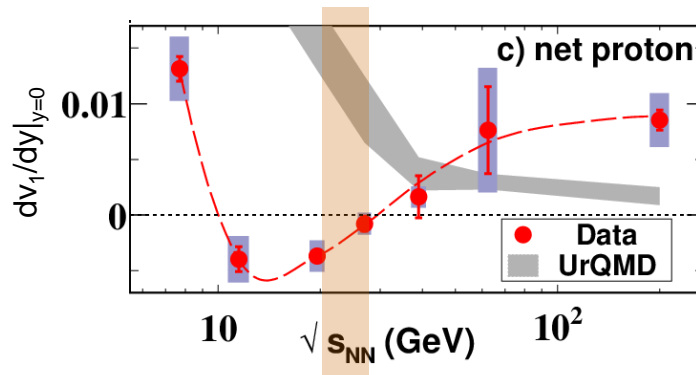
- ▶ Several suggestive non-monotonic behavior at a  $\sim$  common  $\sqrt{s}$ 
  - ✓ Focus on HBT probe

## Possible signals

- Systematic study as function of  $\sqrt{s}$ :
  - Scaled kurtosis (baryon fluctuations)
  - Source radii
- Suggestive non-monotonic behavior at a  $\sim$ common  $\sqrt{s}$



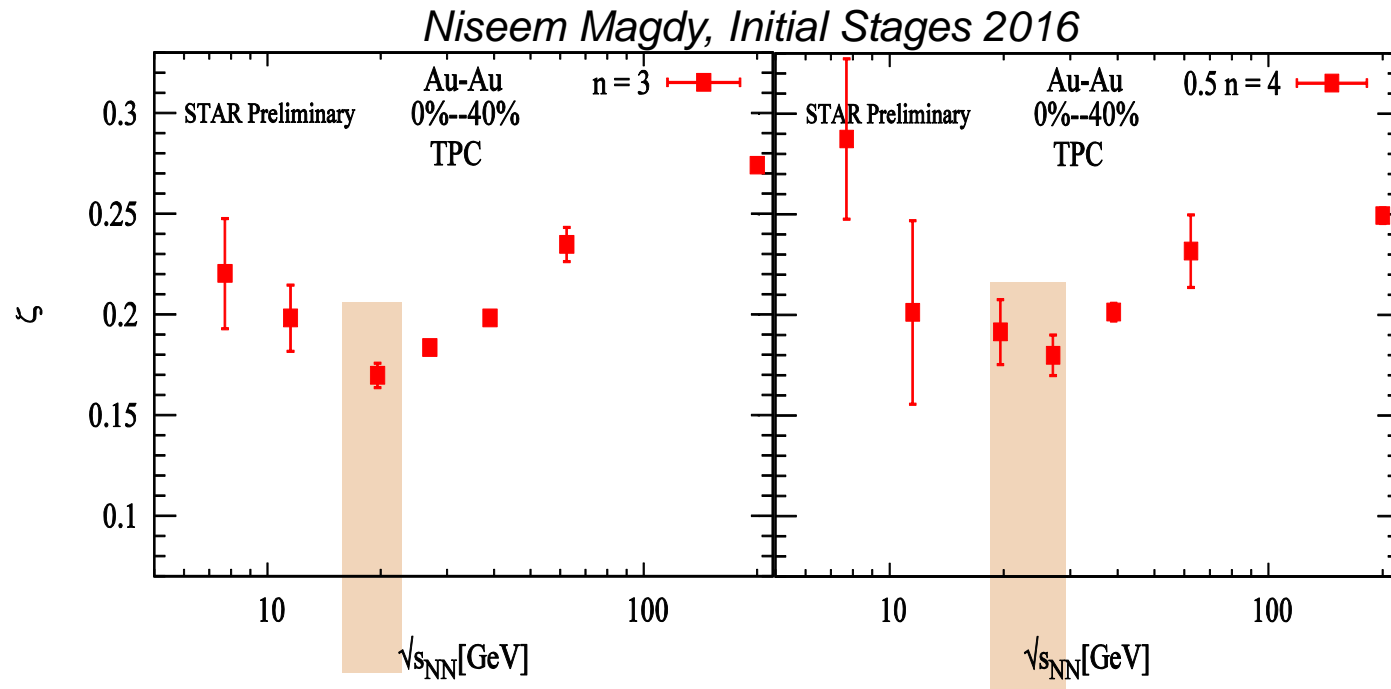
# Possible signals



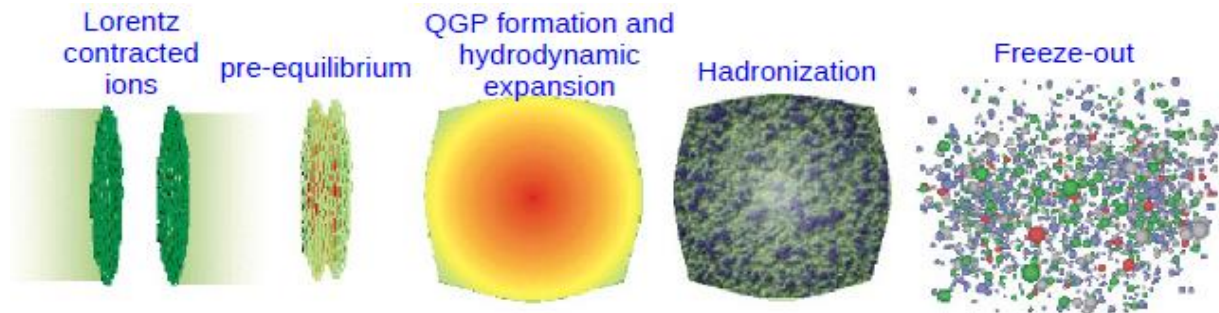
► Systematic study as function of  $\sqrt{s}$ :

◦  $V_n$

► Suggestive non-monotonic behavior at a  $\sim$  common  $\sqrt{s}$

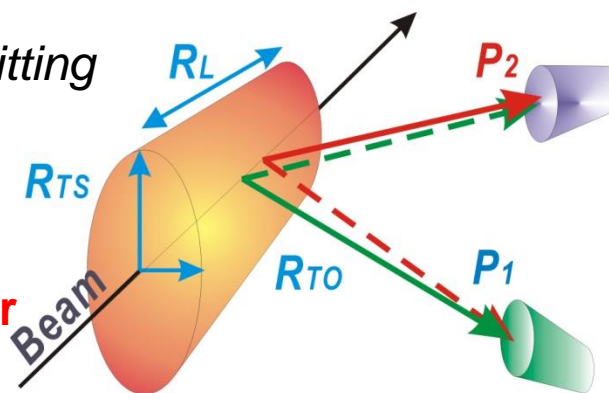


# Interferometry as a susceptibility probe



The expansion of the emitting source ( $R_L$ ,  $R_{T0}$ ,  $R_{TS}$ ) produced in HI collisions is driven by  $c_s$

$\chi$  of the order parameter diverges at the CEP



$$c_s^2 = \frac{1}{\rho \kappa}$$

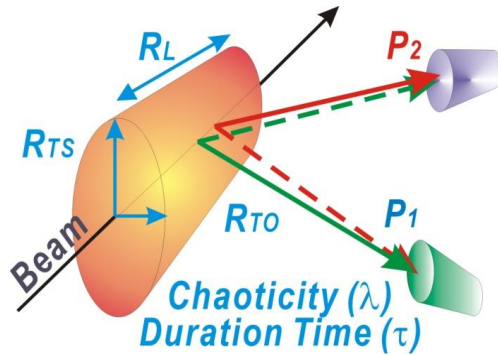
Susceptibility ( $\chi$ )

In the vicinity of a phase transition or the CEP, the divergence of  $\kappa$  leads to anomalies in the expansion dynamics

## Strategy

Search for non-monotonic patterns for HBT radii combinations that are sensitive to the divergence of  $\kappa$

# Interferometry signal

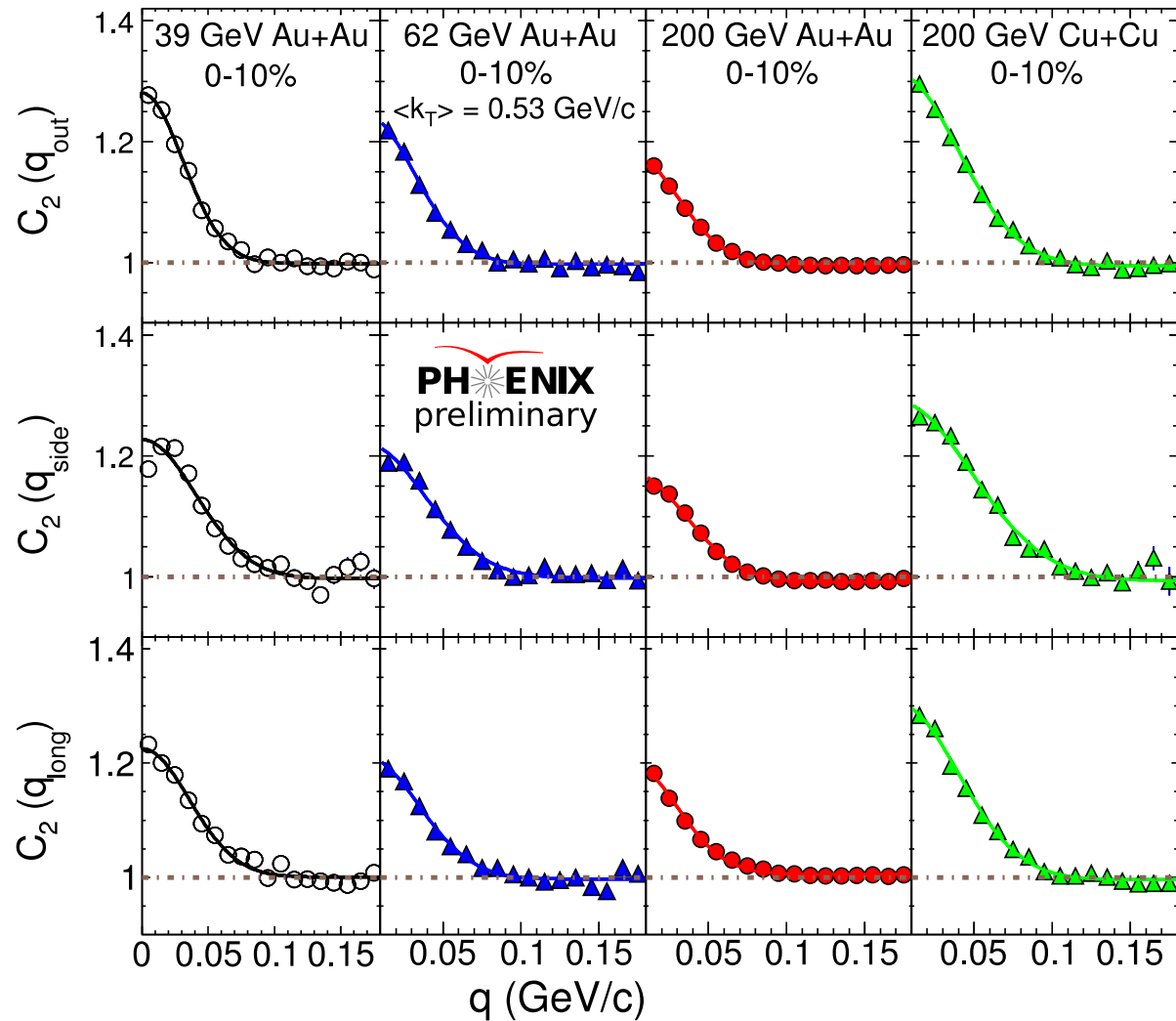


$$C(q) = \frac{dN_2 / d\mathbf{p}_1 d\mathbf{p}_2}{(dN_1 / d\mathbf{p}_1)(dN_1 / d\mathbf{p}_2)}$$

Adare et. al. (PHENIX)

[arXiv:1410.2559](https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.2559)

STAR -Phys.Rev. C92 (2015) 1, 014904



$$C_2(q) = N[(\lambda(1 + G(q)))F_c + (1 - \lambda)],$$

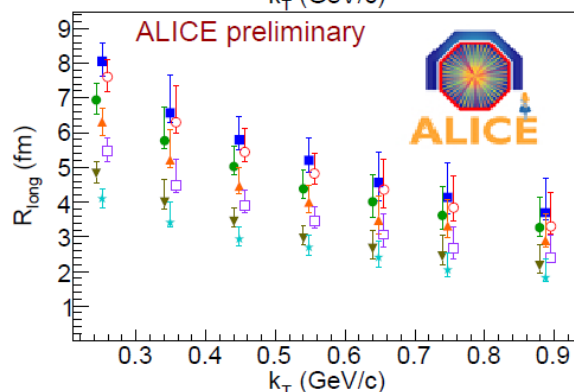
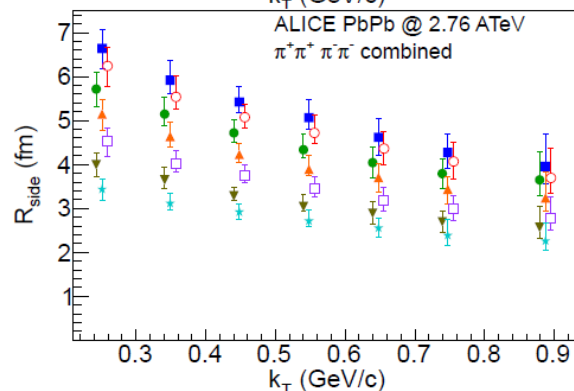
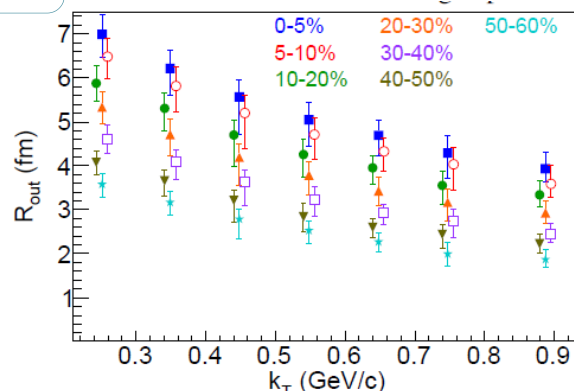
$$G(q) \cong \exp(-R_{side}^2 q_{side}^2 - R_{out}^2 q_{out}^2 - R_{long}^2 q_{long}^2).$$



# HBT Measurements

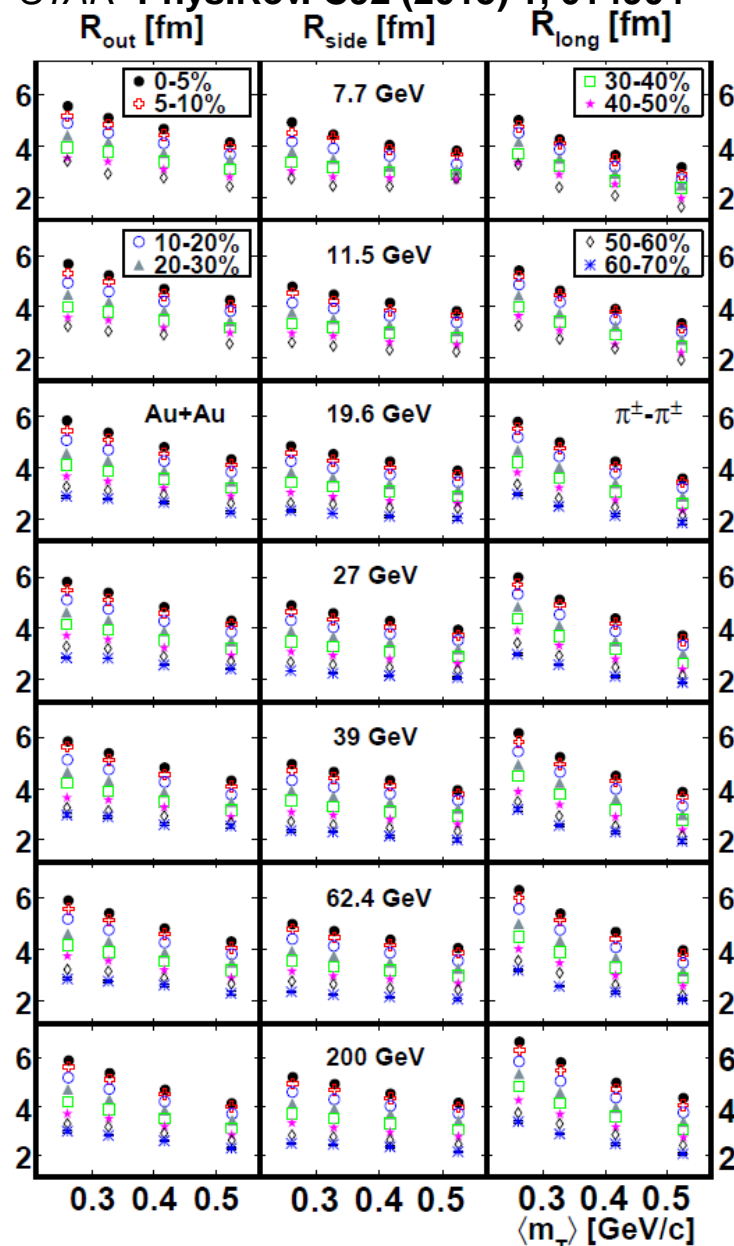
Phys. Rev. C 93 (2016) 024905

ALICE -PoSWPCF2011



This comprehensive set of two-pion HBT measurements is used in our search and characterization

STAR -Phys.Rev. C92 (2015) 1, 014904



**Strategy:** Search for non-monotonic patterns for HBT radii combinations that are sensitive to the divergence of  $\kappa$

# Interferometry as a susceptibility probe

*Hung, Shuryak, PRL. 75,4003 (95)*

T. Csörgő. and B. Lörstad, PRC54 (1996) 1390-1403

*Chapman, Scotto, Heinz, PRL.74.4400 (95)*

*Makhlin, Sinyukov, ZPC.39.69 (88)*

$$R_{side}^2 = \frac{R_{geo}^2}{1 + \frac{m_T}{T} \beta_T^2}$$

$$R_{out}^2 = \frac{R_{geo}^2}{1 + \frac{m_T}{T} \beta_T^2} + \frac{\beta_T^2 (\Delta \tau)^2}{\tau^2}$$

$$R_{long}^2 \approx \frac{T}{m_T} \tau^2$$

emission  
duration

emission  
lifetime

**$(R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2)$  sensitive to the  $\kappa$**

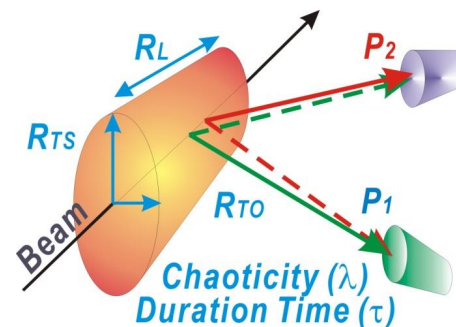
**$(R_{side} - R_{init})/R_{long}$  sensitive to  $c_s$**

Specific non-monotonic patterns expected as a function of  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

➤ **A maximum for  $(R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2)$**

➤ **A minimum for  $(R_{side} - R_{initial})/R_{long}$**

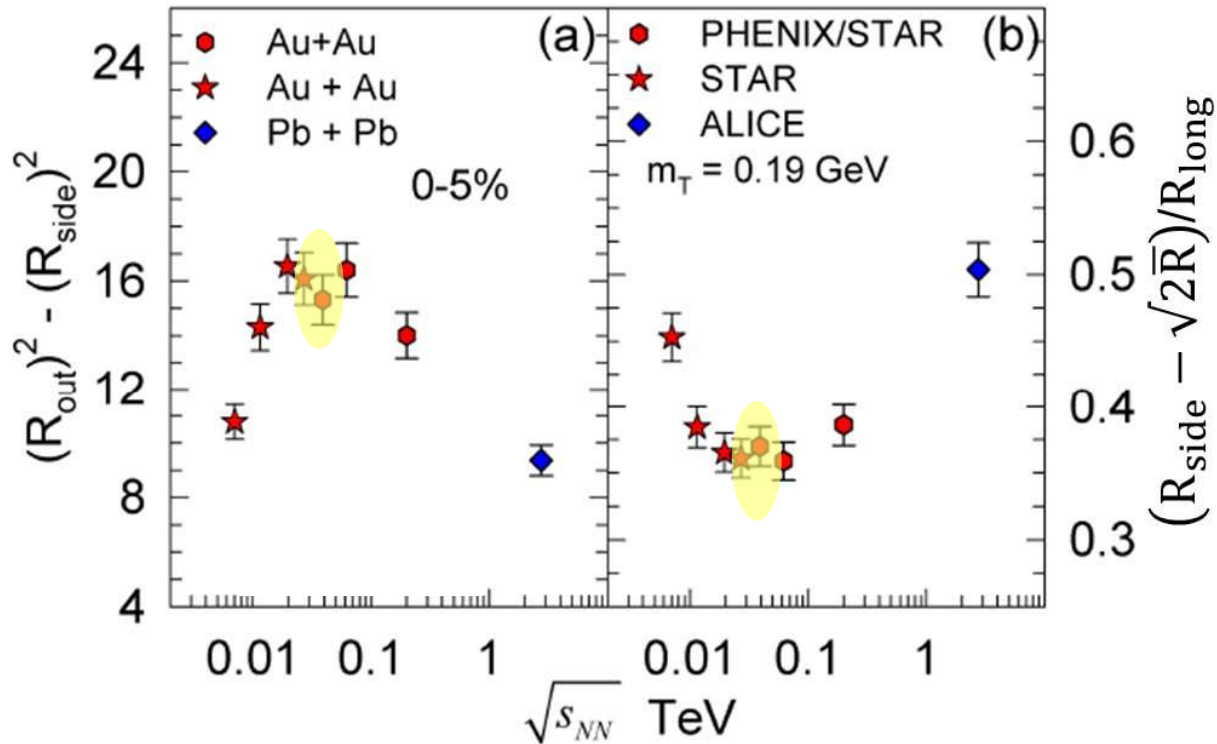
The measured HBT radii encode  
space-time information for  
the reaction dynamics



$$c_s^2 = \frac{1}{\rho \kappa}$$

The divergence of the susceptibility  $\kappa$

- ✓ “softens” the sound speed  $c_s$
- ✓ extends the emission duration



$$R_{long} \propto \tau$$

$$(R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2) \propto \Delta \tau^2$$

$$(R_{side} - R_i) / R_{long} \propto u$$

$$R_{initial} = \sqrt{2\bar{R}}$$

The measurements validate the expected non-monotonic patterns!

→ Reaction trajectories spend a fair amount of time near a “soft point” in the EOS that coincides with the CEP!

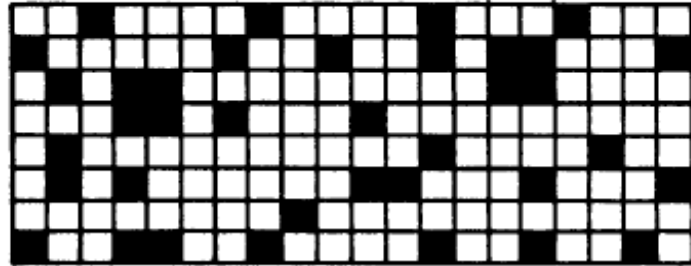
**\*\* Note that  $R_{long}$ ,  $R_{out}$  and  $R_{side}$  [all] increase with  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  \*\***

Finite-Size Scaling (FSS) is used for further validation of the CEP, as well as to characterize its static and dynamic properties

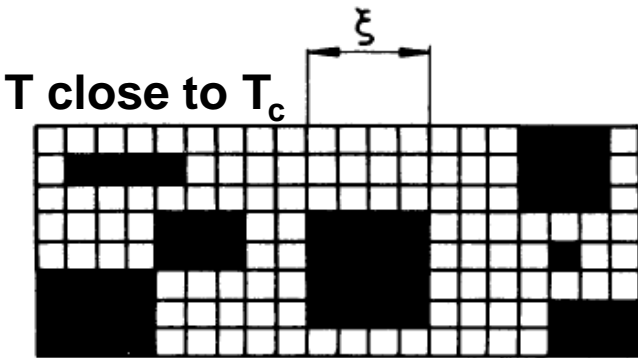
# Finite-Size Effects

## Illustration

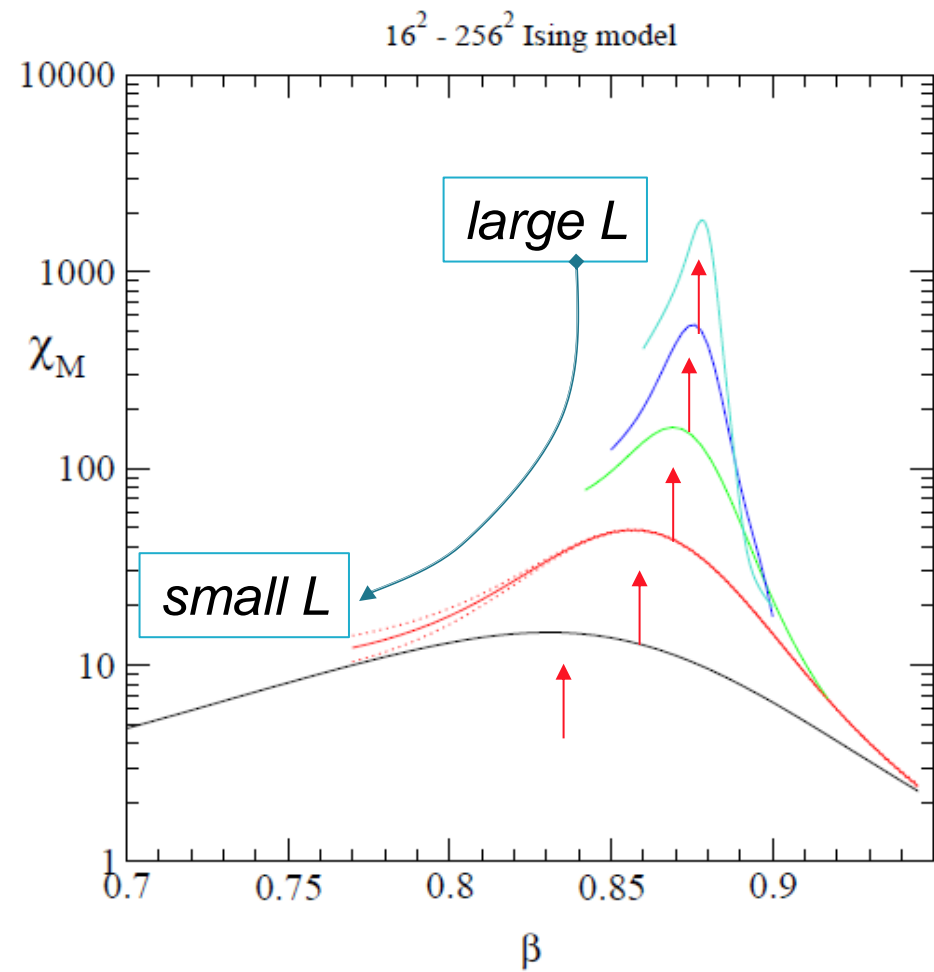
$T > T_c$



$L$  characterizes the system size

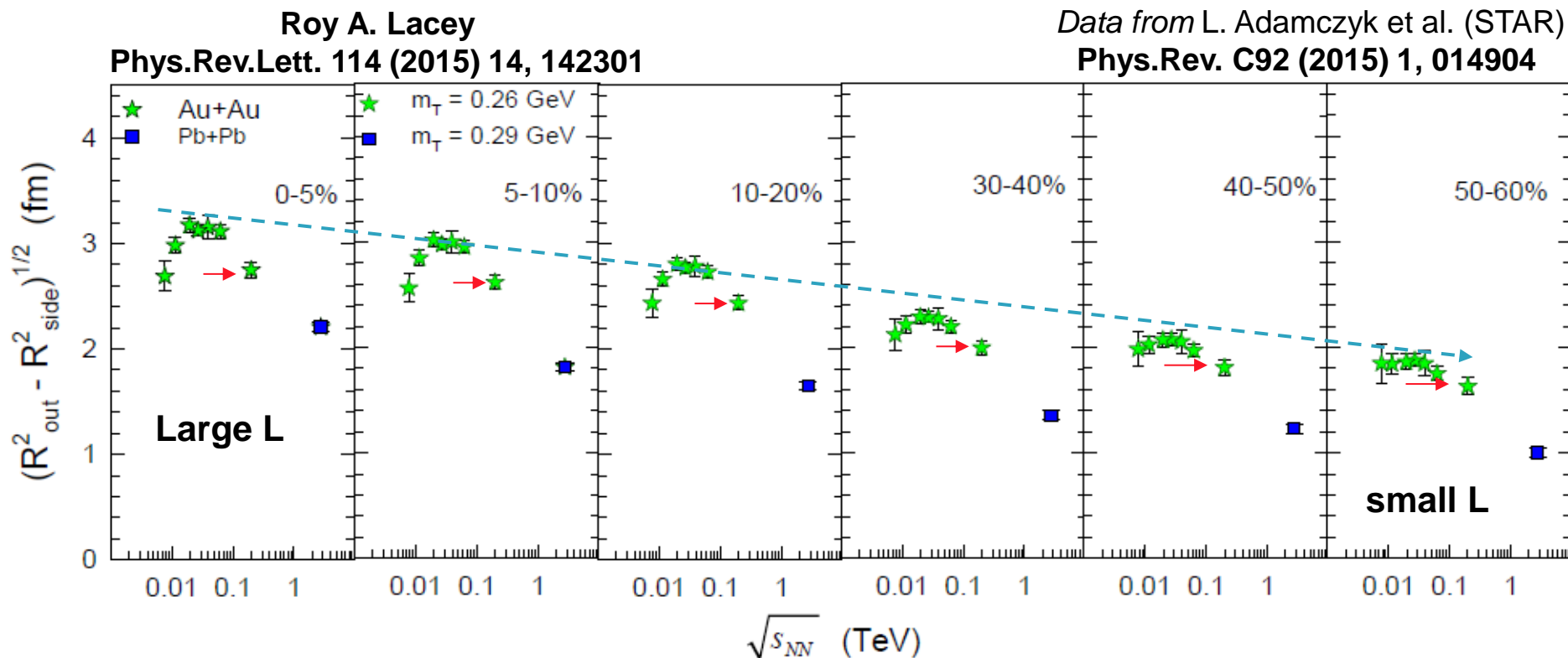


$$\xi \sim |T - T_c|^{-\nu} \leq L$$



Note change in peak heights  
positions & widths with  $L$

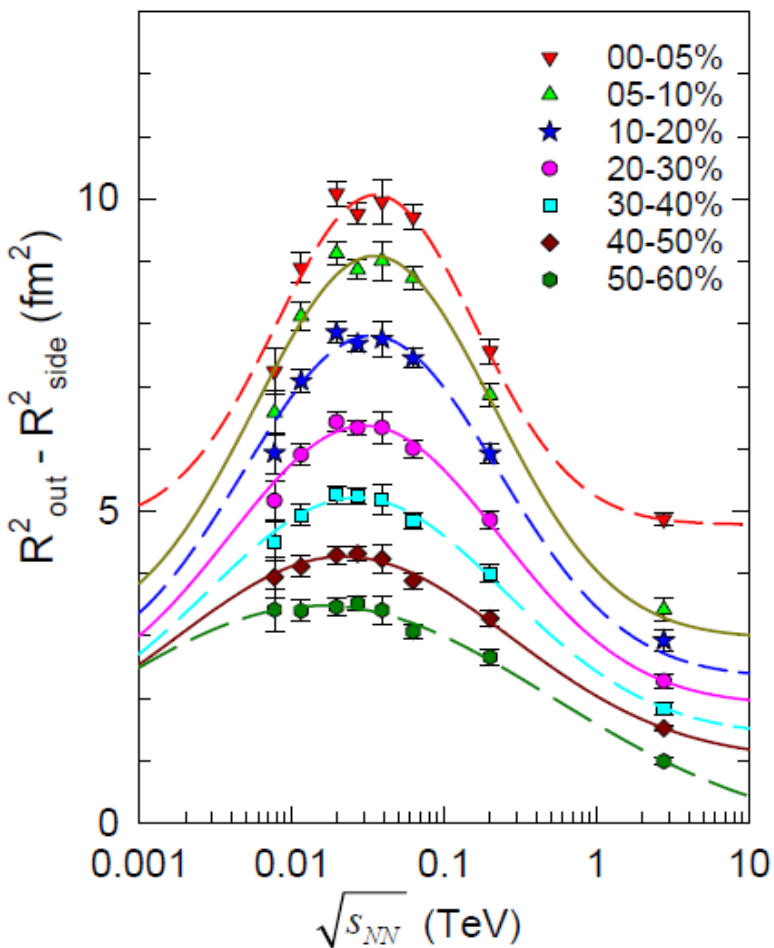
## Size dependence of HBT excitation functions



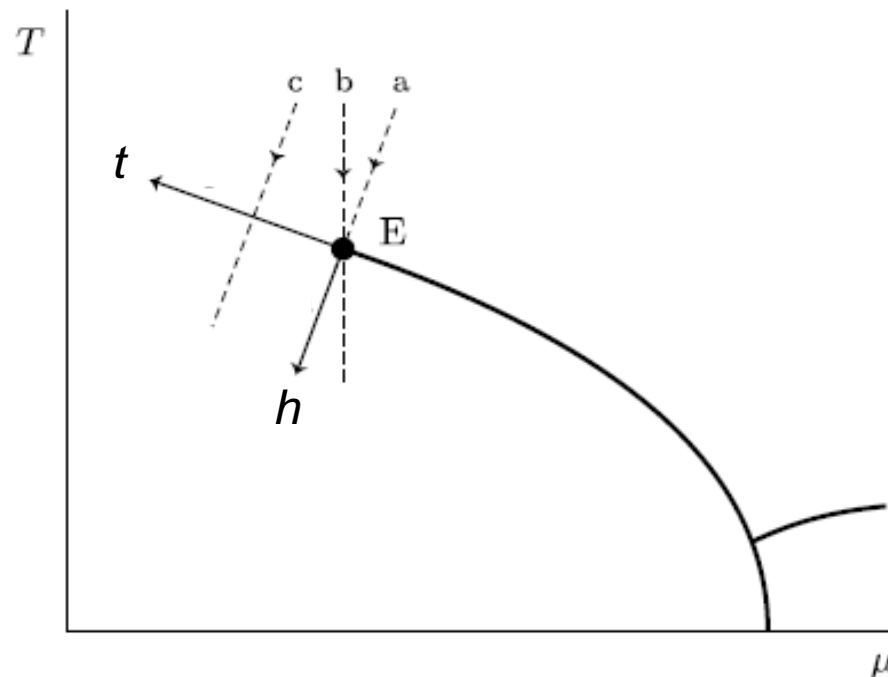
**The data validate the expected patterns for Finite-Size Effects**

- ✓ Max values decrease with decreasing system size
- ✓ Peak positions shift with decreasing system size
- ✓ Widths increase with decreasing system size

# Size dependence of HBT excitation functions



characteristic patterns signal  
the effects of finite-size



I. Use  $(R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2)$  as a proxy for the susceptibility

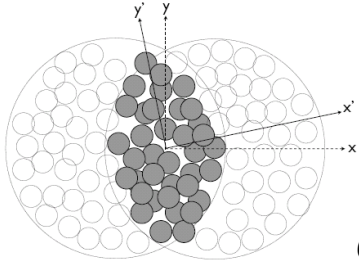
II. Parameterize distance to the CEP by  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

$$\tau_s = (\sqrt{s} - \sqrt{s_{CEP}}) / \sqrt{s_{CEP}}$$

III. Perform Finite-Size Scaling analysis  
with length scale  $L = \bar{R}$



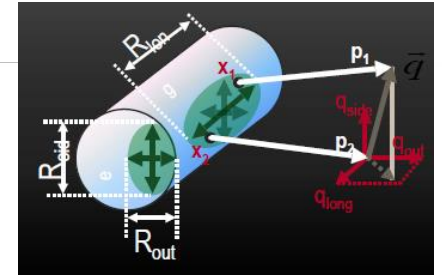
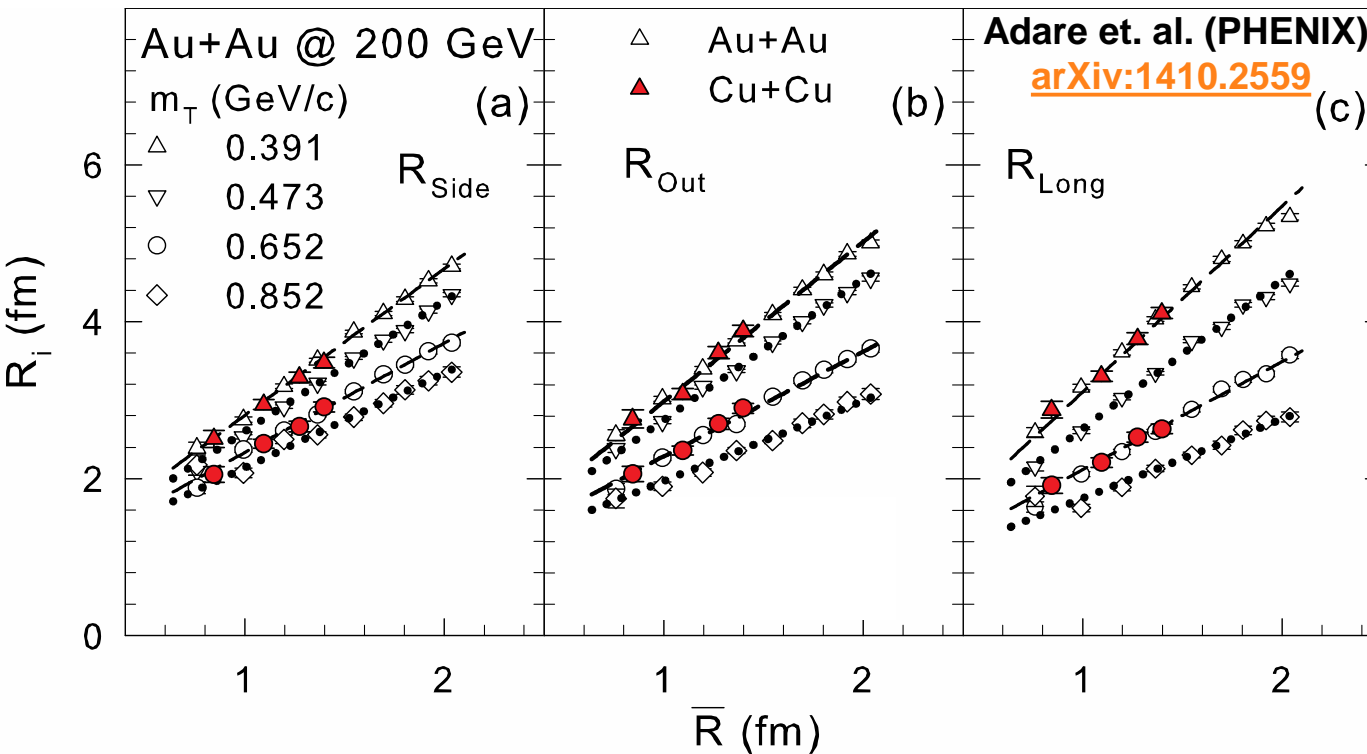
# Length Scale for Finite Size Scaling



$$\frac{1}{\bar{R}} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{\sigma_x^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_y^2}\right)}$$

$\bar{R}$  is a characteristic length scale of the initial-state transverse size,

$\sigma_x$  &  $\sigma_y \rightarrow$  RMS widths of density distribution



$$R_{out}, R_{side}, R_{long} \propto \bar{R}$$

$\bar{R}$  scales the volume

$\bar{R}$  scales the full RHIC and LHC data sets

## Summary of Scaling Procedure

(only two exponents are independent)

$$\chi_T^{\max}(V) \sim L^{\gamma/\nu},$$

$$\delta T(V) \sim L^{-\frac{1}{\nu}},$$

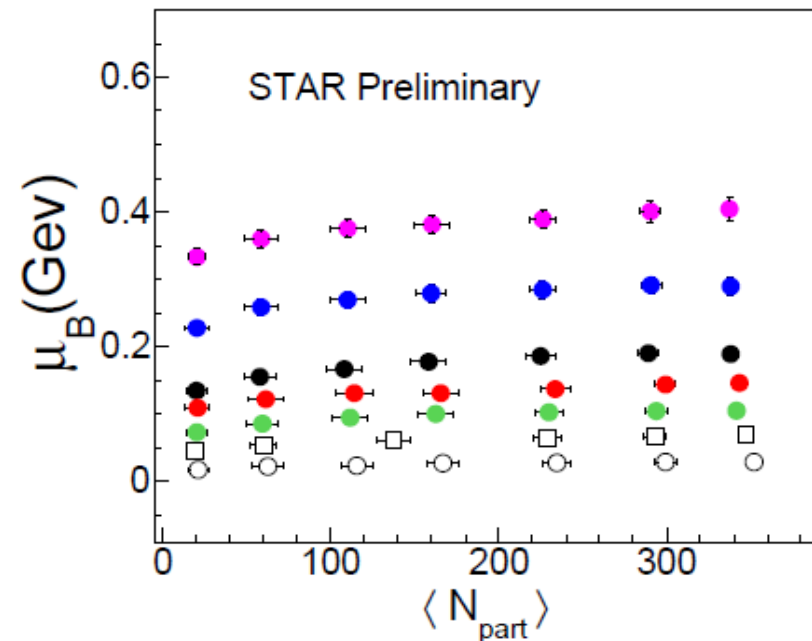
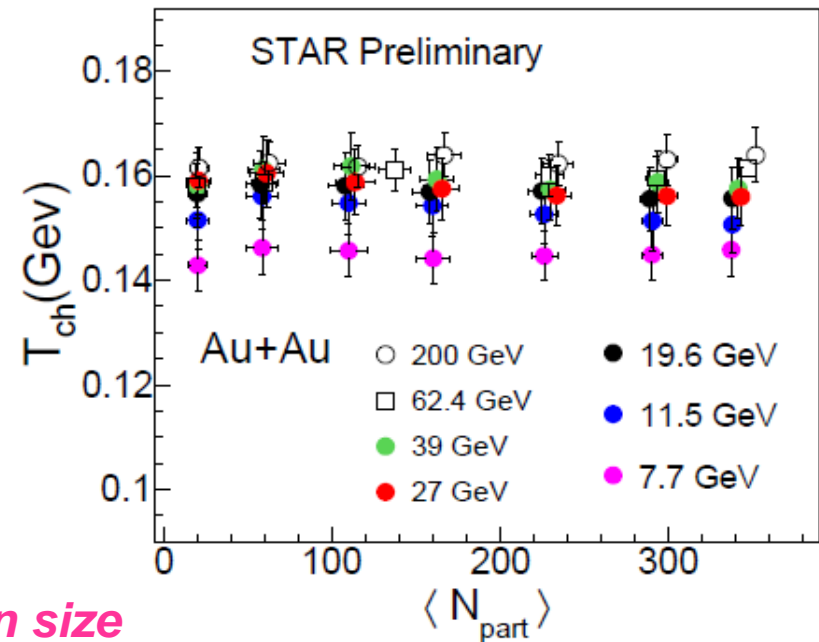
$$\tau_T(V) \sim T^{\text{cep}}(V) - T^{\text{cep}}(\infty) \sim L^{-\frac{1}{\nu}},$$

$$(R_{\text{out}}^2 - R_{\text{side}}^2)^{\max} \propto \bar{R}^{\gamma/\nu},$$

$$\sqrt{s_{NN}}(V) = \sqrt{s_{NN}}(\infty) - k \times \bar{R}^{-\frac{1}{\nu}},$$

Note that  $(\mu_B^f, T^f)$  is not strongly dependent on size

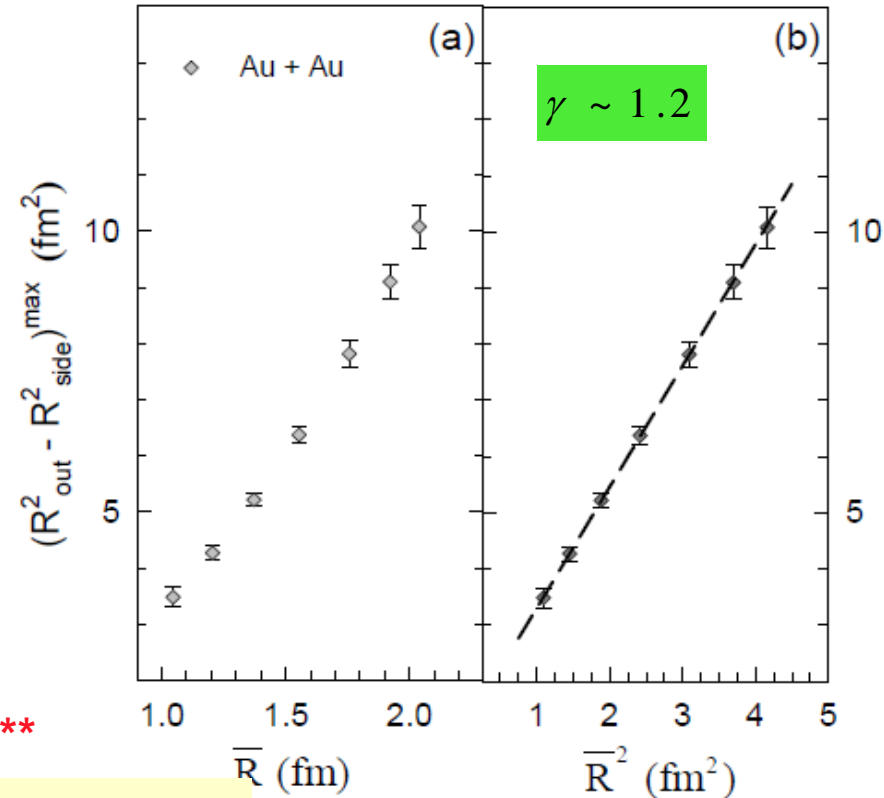
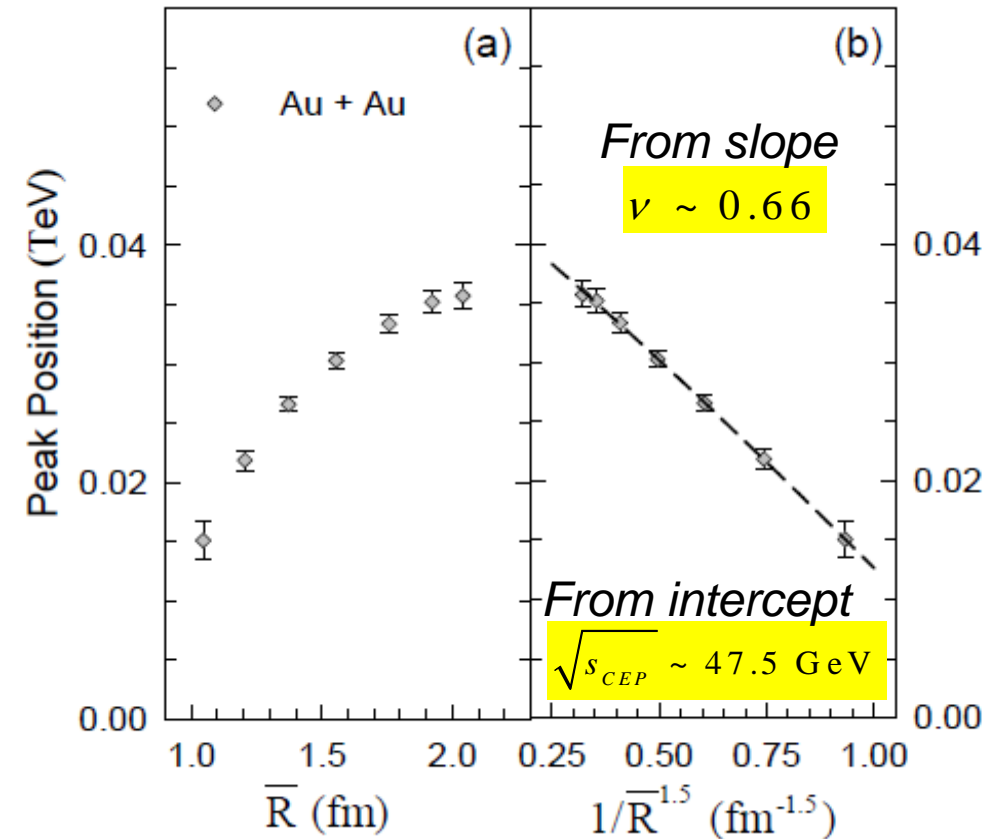
- Extract position ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ ) of deconfinement transition and critical exponents
- Use exponents to determine:
  - ✓ Order of the phase transition
  - ✓ Static universality class



# Finite – Size Scaling

$$\sqrt{s_{NN}}(V) = \sqrt{s_{NN}}(\infty) - k \times \bar{R}^{-1/\nu}$$

$$(R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2)^{max} \propto \bar{R}^{\gamma/\nu}$$



**\*\* Same  $\nu$  value from analysis of the widths \*\***

- **The critical exponents validate**
  - ✓ **the 3D Ising model (static) universality class**
  - ✓ **2<sup>nd</sup> order phase transition for CEP**

$$T^{cep} \sim 165 \text{ MeV}, \mu_B^{cep} \sim 95 \text{ MeV}$$

**( $\sqrt{s_{CEP}}$  & chemical freeze-out systematics)**

## Closurer test for FSS

- **2<sup>nd</sup> order phase transition**
- **3D Ising Model (static) universality class for CEP**

$$\nu \sim 0.66 \quad \gamma \sim 1.2$$

$$T^{cep} \sim 165 \text{ MeV}, \mu_B^{cep} \sim 95 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\chi(T, L) = L^{\gamma/\nu} P_\chi(tL^{1/\nu})$$

M. Suzuki,

Prog. Theor. Phys. 58, 1142, 1977

Use  $T^{cep}$ ,  $\mu_B^{cep}$ ,  $\nu$  and  $\gamma$   
to obtain Scaling  
Function  $P_\chi$

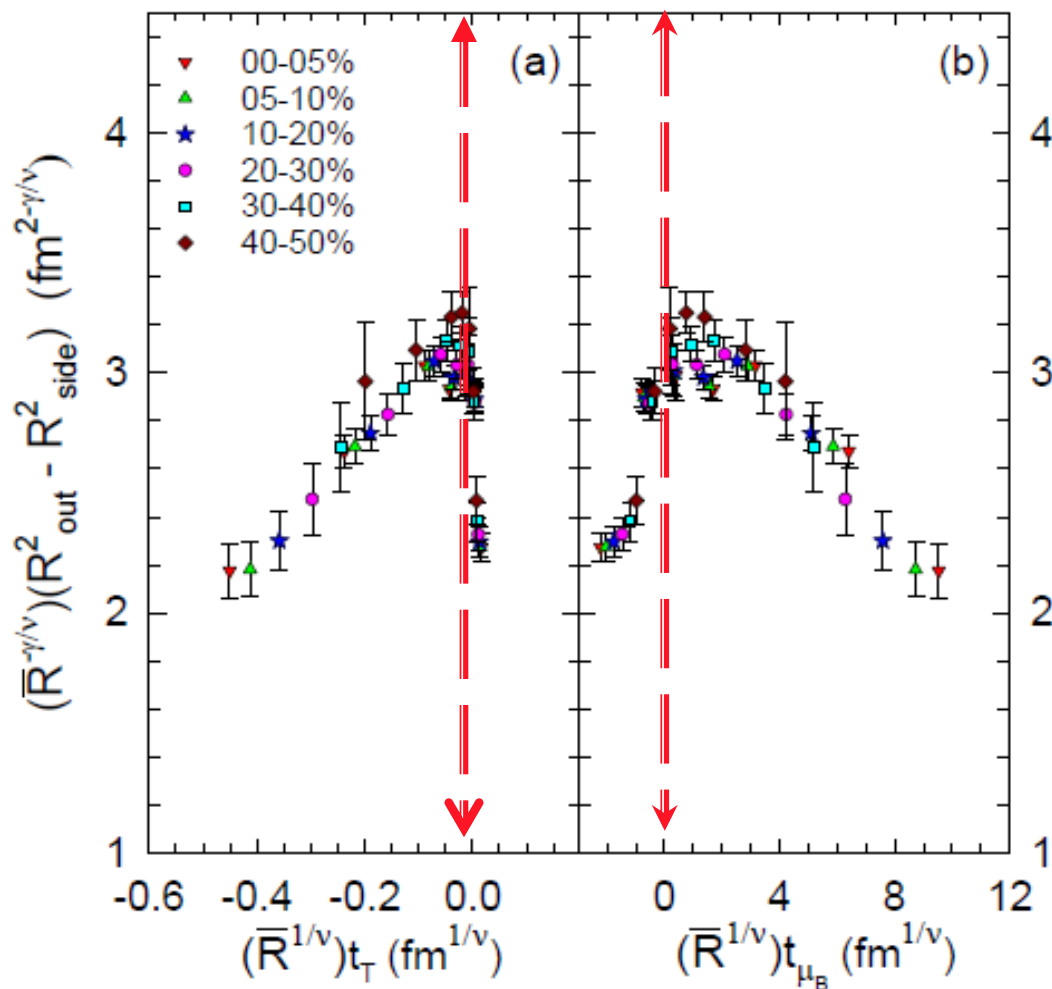
$$R^{-\gamma/\nu} \times (R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2) \text{ vs. } R^{1/\nu} \times t_T,$$

$$\bar{R}^{-\gamma/\nu} \times (R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2) \text{ vs. } \bar{R}^{1/\nu} \times t_{\mu_B},$$

$$t_T = (T - T^{cep})/T^{cep}$$

$$t_{\mu_B} = (\mu_B - \mu_B^{cep})/\mu_B^{cep}$$

**T** and  $\mu_B$  are from  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$



**\*\*A further validation of  
the location of the CEP and  
the (static) critical exponents\*\***

# Dynamic Finite – Size Scaling

## ➤ 2<sup>nd</sup> order phase transition

$$\nu \sim 0.66$$

$$\gamma \sim 1.2$$

$$T^{cep} \sim 165 \text{ MeV}, \mu_B^{cep} \sim 95 \text{ MeV}$$

## DFSS ansatz

at time  $\tau$  when  $T$  is near  $T_{cep}$

$$\chi(L, T, \tau) = L^{\gamma/\nu} f(L^{1/\nu} t_T, \tau L^{-z})$$

$$t_T = (T - T_{cep})/T_{cep}$$

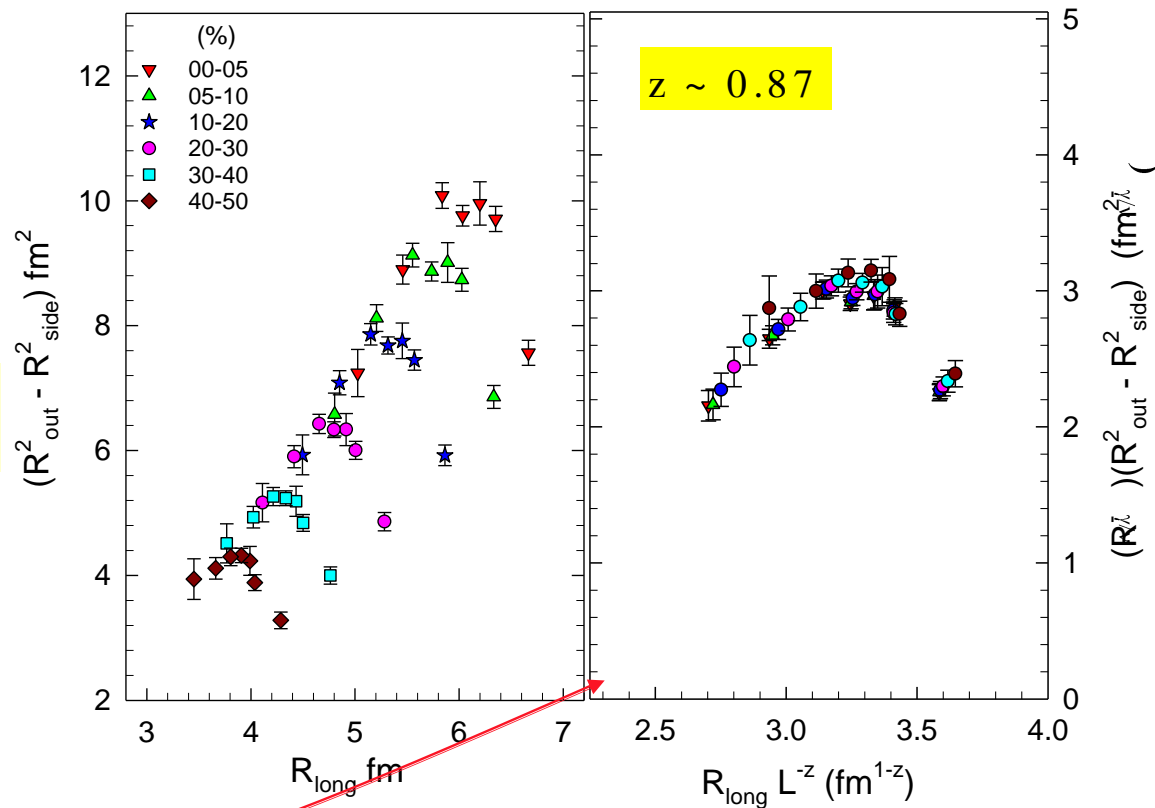
For  
 $T = T_c$

$$\chi(L, T_c, \tau) = L^{\gamma/\nu} f(\tau L^{-z})$$

M. Suzuki,  
Prog. Theor. Phys. 58, 1142, 1977

$$R_{long} \propto \tau$$

**\*\*Experimental estimate of the dynamic critical exponent\*\***



**The magnitude of  $z$  is similar to the predicted value for  $z_s$  but the sign is opposite**



## Epilogue

***Strong experimental indication for the CEP  
and its location***

### (Dynamic) Finite-Size Scaling analysis

- **3D Ising Model (static)**  
*universality class for CEP*
- **2<sup>nd</sup> order phase transition**

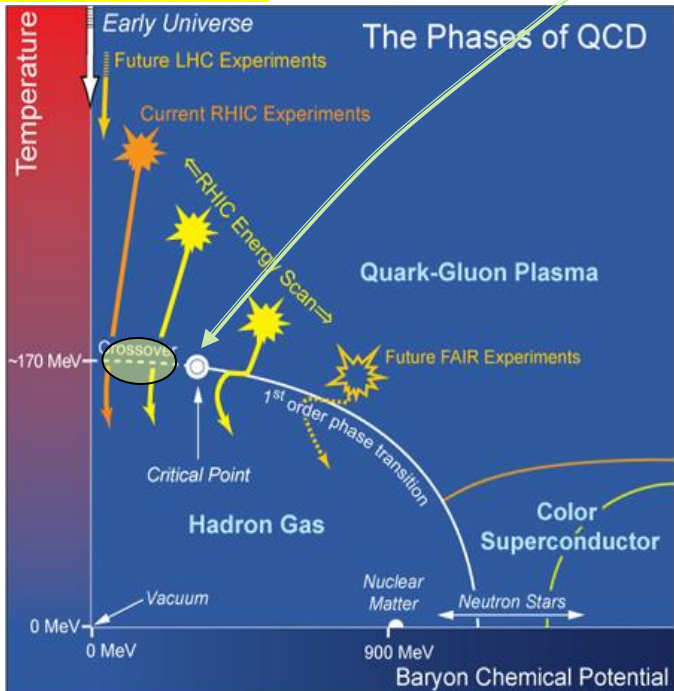
$$T^{cep} \sim 165 \text{ MeV}, \mu_B^{cep} \sim 95 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\nu \sim 0.66$$

$$\gamma \sim 1.2$$

$$z \sim 0.87$$

- ✓ Landmark validated
- ✓ Crossover validated
- ✓ Deconfinement validated
- ✓ (Static) Universality class validated
- ✓ Model H dynamic Universality class invalidated?
- ✓ Other implications!



***New Data from RHIC (BES-II) together with theoretical modeling, can provide crucial validation tests for the coexistence regions, as well as to firm-up characterization of the CEP!***



***Much additional work required to get to “the end of the line”***



*End*

*Phys.Rev.Lett.100:232301,2008)*

## Source breakup dynamics in Au+Au Collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=200$ GeV via three-dimensional two-pion source imaging

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*Phys.Lett. B685 (2010) 41-46*

## Three-dimensional two-pion source image from Pb+Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=17.3$ GeV: new constraints for source breakup dynamics

C. Alt<sup>9</sup>, T. Anticic<sup>23</sup>, B. Baatar<sup>8</sup>, D. Barna<sup>4</sup>, J. Bartke<sup>6</sup>, L. Betev<sup>10</sup>, H. Białkowska<sup>20</sup>, C. Blume<sup>9</sup>, B. Boimska<sup>20</sup>, M. Botje<sup>1</sup>, J. Bracinik<sup>3</sup>, P. Bunčić<sup>10</sup>, V. Cerny<sup>3</sup>, P. Christakoglou<sup>1</sup>, P. Chung<sup>19</sup>, O. Chvala<sup>14</sup>, J.G. Cramer<sup>16</sup>, P. Csató<sup>4</sup>, P. Dinkelaker<sup>9</sup>, V. Eckardt<sup>13</sup>, D. Flierl<sup>9</sup>, Z. Fodor<sup>4</sup>, P. Foka<sup>7</sup>, V. Friese<sup>7</sup>, J. Gál<sup>4</sup>, M. Gaździcki<sup>9,11</sup>, V. Genchev<sup>18</sup>, E. Gładysz<sup>6</sup>, K. Grebieszko<sup>22</sup>, S. Hegyi<sup>4</sup>, C. Höhne<sup>7</sup>, K. Kadija<sup>23</sup>, A. Karev<sup>13</sup>, S. Kniege<sup>9</sup>, V.I. Kolesnikov<sup>8</sup>, R. Korus<sup>11</sup>, M. Kowalski<sup>6</sup>, M. Kreps<sup>3</sup>, A. Laszlo<sup>4</sup>, R. Lacey<sup>19</sup>, M. van Leeuwen<sup>1</sup>, P. Lévai<sup>4</sup>, L. Litov<sup>17</sup>, B. Lungwitz<sup>9</sup>, M. Makariev<sup>17</sup>, A.I. Malakhov<sup>8</sup>, M. Mateev<sup>17</sup>, G.L. Melkumov<sup>8</sup>,

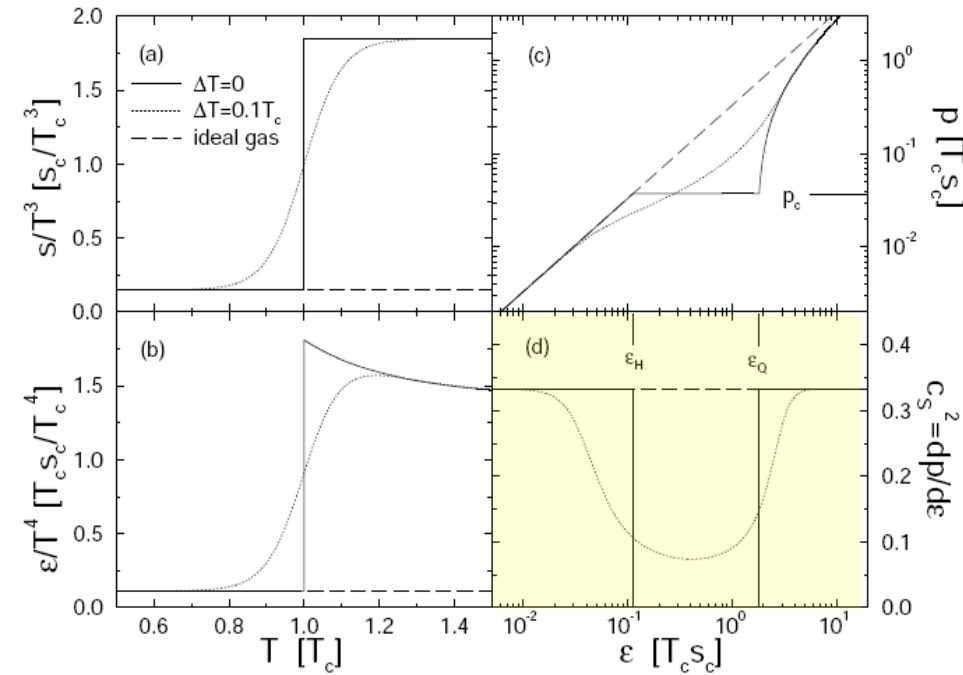
$$\tau = \tau_0 + a \rho$$

*Space-time correlation parameter*

# Interferometry as a susceptibility probe

Dirk Rischke and Miklos Gyulassy  
Nucl.Phys.A608:479-512,1996

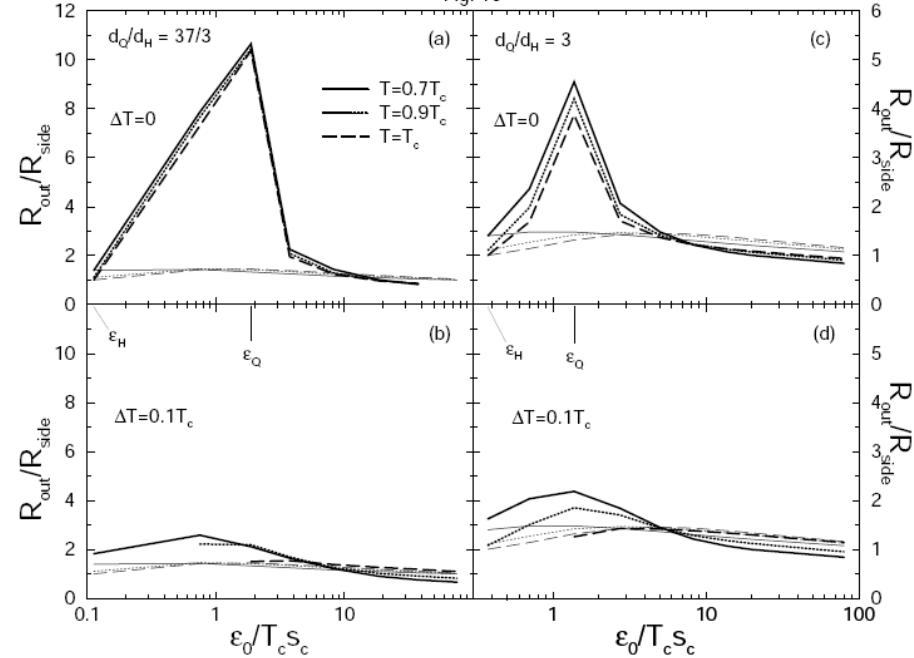
Fig. 1



**In the vicinity of a phase transition or the CEP, the sound speed is expected to soften considerably.**

$$c_s^2 = \frac{1}{\rho \kappa_s}$$

Fig. 16



**Divergence of the compressibility ( $\kappa$ )**  
**→ non-monotonic excitation function for  $(R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2)$  due to an enhanced emission duration**

# Theoretical Guidance

## Theory consensus on the static universality class for the CEP

3D-Ising  $Z(2)$

✓  $\nu \sim 0.63$

✓  $\gamma \sim 1.2$

M. A. Stephanov

Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 20, 4387 (2005)

## Dynamic Universality class for the CEP less clear

### ➤ One slow mode (L)

✓  $z \sim 3$  - Model H

Son & Stephanov

Phys.Rev. D70 (2004) 056001

Moore & Saremi ,

JHEP 0809, 015 (2008)

### ➤ Three slow modes (NL)

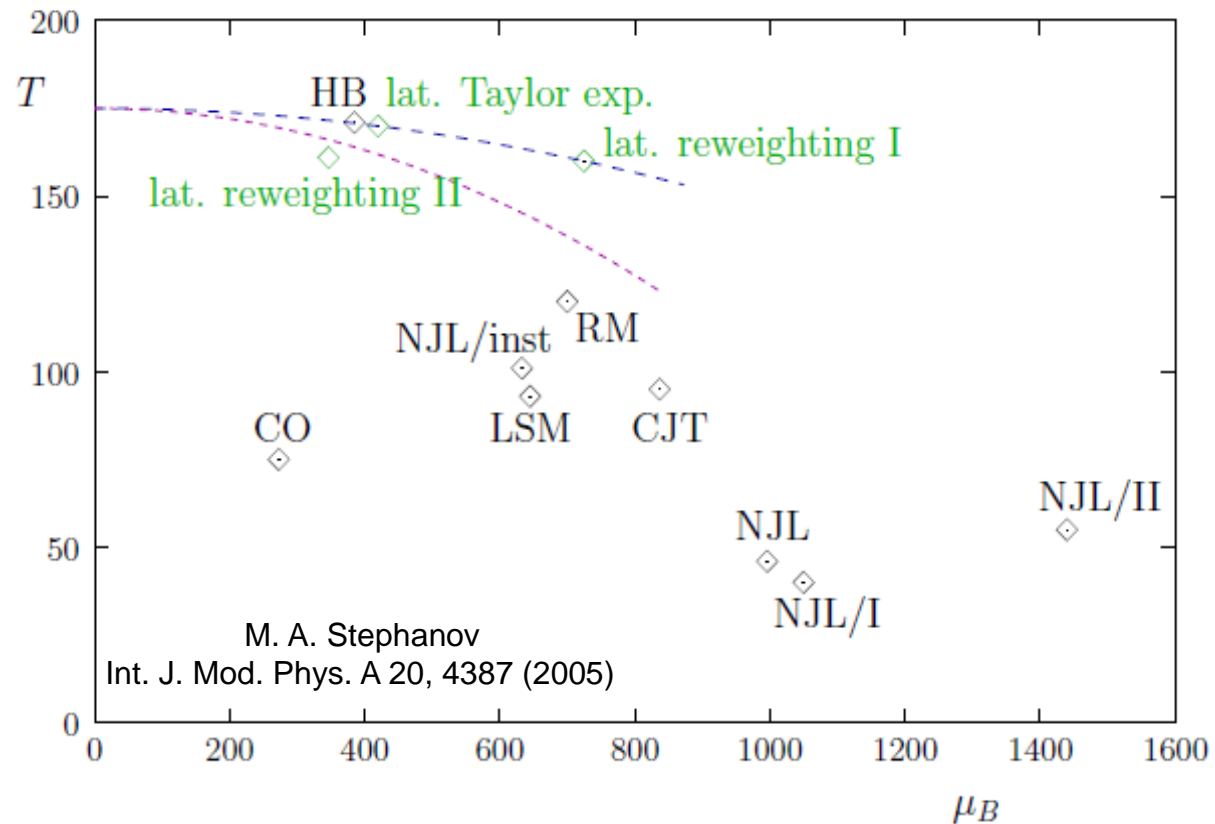
✓  $z_T \sim 3$

✓  $z_V \sim 2$

✓  $z_S \sim -0.8$

Y. Minami - Phys.Rev. D83  
(2011) 094019

The predicted location ( $T^{\text{cep}}, \mu_B^{\text{cep}}$ ) of the CEP is even less clear!



Experimental verification and characterization of the CEP is a crucial ingredient

## What about Finite-Time Effects (FTE)?

$\chi_{op}$  diverges at the CEP

so relaxation of the order parameter could be anomalously slow



$z > 0$  - Critical slowing down

Non-linear dynamics →

Multiple slow modes

$z_T \sim 3$ ,  $z_V \sim 2$ ,  $z_S \sim -0.8$

$z_S < 0$  - Critical speeding up

Y. Minami - Phys.Rev. D83 (2011) 094019

An important consequence

$$\xi \sim \tau^{1/z}$$

Significant signal attenuation for  
short-lived processes  
with  $z_T \sim 3$  or  $z_V \sim 2$

eg.  $\langle(\delta n)\rangle \sim \xi^2$  (without FTE)

$\langle(\delta n)\rangle \sim \tau^{1/z} \ll \xi^2$  (with FTE)

**The value of the dynamic critical exponent/s is crucial for HIC**

Dynamic Finite-Size Scaling (DFSS) is used to  
estimate the dynamic critical exponent  $z$